

Administrative Determination (AD)
Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Land Management
Anchorage Field Office

A. BLM Office: Anchorage Field Office **Lease/Serial Case File No.:** AA-028142

Proposed Action Title/Type:

Proposed Gas Well Drilling in the Kenai Beluga Unit

Location of Proposed Action:

Section 6, T. 4 N., R. 11 W., Seward Meridian

Description of the Proposed Action

Marathon Oil Company has submitted an Application for Permit to Drill in the Kenai Beluga Unit, located in the Kenai Gas Field. Existing roads will be used for accessing the new well. No new roads will be constructed to access KBU 43-7X. The new well will be drilled on Kenai Gas Field (KGF) pad 41-7. Existing facilities will be upgraded to handle the additional gas production. A water supply well exists on the pad from which well KBU 43-7X will be drilled. No new construction is scheduled. Recently completed pad expansion work will be sufficient for the new well.

Wastes associated with drilling and production will mainly be handled on-site. Mud and cuttings will be dewatered on location and excess materials hauled to and disposed in a Class II disposal well, KU 24-7, located on Pad 41-18 in the Kenai Gas Field (AOGCC Disposal Injection Order No. 9, Permit #81-176). All approved industrial and household debris will be hauled to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Soldotna Landfill. Clear fluids will be hauled to Pad 34-31 and injected into the approved disposal well WD #1 in the Kenai Gas Field (AOGCC Permit #7-194). Unused chemicals will be returned to suppliers. Efforts will be made to minimize the use of any and all chemicals. All sewage will be hauled to the Kenai sanitation facility.

Approximately four trailer type houses will be required on-site to house various supervisory and service company personnel. Bottled water will be used for human consumption, while potable water will be gathered from the existing water well on the pad. Sanitary wastes will be collected and transported to ADEC approved facilities. Since KBU 43-7X will be drilled from an existing pad, reclamation will occur after the abandonment of all wells associated with the pad. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will approve the reclamation plan, prior to any work taking place.

Applicant (if any): Marathon Oil Company

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans.

The BLM has not developed a land use plan for surface or subsurface oil and gas development in the Kenai Peninsula area. The subject Proposed Action, however, is nearly identical to the proposed action described in EA No. AK-040-99-022 (Kenai Gas Field Development Wells 33-6 and 42-7, August 1999). This EA can be reviewed at <http://web.ctf.ak.blm.gov/AFO/extest/ealg1999.html>. The impacts are also assumed to be nearly identical. Therefore, EA-040-99-022 provides a basis for a decision on the proposal in accordance with Federal regulations (Title 43 CFR Part 1610.8(b)(1).

C. Identify applicable NEPA documents and other related documents that cover the Proposed Action.

EA No. AK-040-99-022; Kenai Gas Field Development Wells 33-6 and 42-7, August 1999.

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

- 1. Is the current Proposed Action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed? Is the current Proposed Action located at a site specifically analyzed in an existing document?**

The Proposed Action is located on the same pad (Kenai Gas Field 41-7) and will be drilled to approximately the same depth as the one described in the KGF EA.

- 2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

The alternatives analyzed in the KGF EA were; allow the drilling and deny the drilling. Since the EA was written, the environmental issues and concerns have not changed.

- 3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances?**

Yes. The existing analysis remains valid. There is no new information that would warrant any additional changes to the existing analysis.

- 4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current Proposed Action?**

Yes.

5. **Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current Proposed Action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document analyze site-specific impacts related to the current Proposed Action?**

The direct and indirect impacts identified in the KGF EA are the same as would be anticipated for the Proposed Action. The KGF EA provides a reasonable basis for making a decision on the Proposed Action.

6. **Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current Proposed Action substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Yes, they are identical.

7. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current Proposed Action?**

The proposal for which the KGF EA was written was posted for 30 days and received no comments. The current proposal has also been posted for 30 days with no comments received.

- E. **Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting or participating in the NEPA analysis and preparation of this worksheet.**

See NEPA routing sheet and specialists' worksheets.

- F. **Mitigation Measures:**

There are no mitigation measures.

- G. **Conclusion**

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

/s/ June Bailey, Acting
Anchorage Field Manager

05-12-03
Date